

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are now pending in the application. By this amendment, claim 8 is amended to call for the subject matter of allowable claim 9. Claim 9 is cancelled. Claim 12 is amended to correct a typographical error. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8 and 10-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kishigami. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Notwithstanding, in order to expedite prosecution of the present application, Applicant elects to amend claim 8 to call for the allowable subject matter of objected to claim 9. Claims 10-12 depend from claim 8. As such, all rejections should be moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claim 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As stated above, Applicant amended claim 8 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 9. Claim 9 is cancelled. Therefore, all claims should be in condition for allowance.

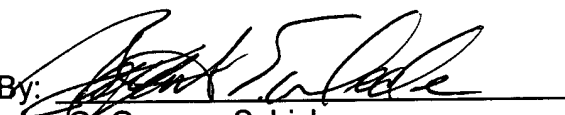
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt

and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 15, 2003

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